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WASHINGTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Volume XI, Number 1 - Jan, 2000

Washington County
Genealogical Society,
P.O. Box 567,
Plymouth, NC 27962-0567

WCGS

**WASHINGTON COUNTY
Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 567, Plymouth, NC 27962**

Vol. XI, No 1 - Jan, 2000.

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Publishers Note: From bits and pieces gleaned from the newspapers and from rumor it appears that not much is going on with the library, it's repair, it's relocation or reorganization. Libraries don't just sit there, a figurative object in the midst of the community; they are the community, they reflect the community. If the library becomes dilapidated or moribund it is likely that the same condition exists in the community. The community and the library need each other and prosper in direct proportion to each other.

If planners decide that a proposed library needs space for the building and future expansion and for parking facilities, there are alternatives that can be considered so that the location can remain within a populated area, as it should. In Plymouth the Baptist Church has a considerably adequate parking space which can be shared and the County already owns a building adjacent to that space. The present location has parking space adjacent to which, if obtained, could be of benefit to the library and to the Methodist Church nearby and thus shared. The Town of Plymouth has land enough on Main Street where parking facilities could be shared with churches if need be.

Interest in the library could be sparked to a reasonable pitch if the Library Board of Trustees would seek to discuss possibilities with the Plymouth Town Board and with the neighboring churches; and above all else try to publicize every discussion on the subject possible. It will certainly backfire if actions in this matter are taken in secret, they are just too important.

January Meeting: In spite of the action of the Board of Trustees of the Washington County Library denying the Reading Room of the library for meetings of the Washington County Genealogical Society quite a goodly gathering of the membership attended the monthly meeting at the Free Will Baptist Church on US Highway 64 on January 16th. Shirleyan Phelps, incoming President, arranged to provide refreshments and the period of in-

formal discussions took place as usual. At the proper time the meeting was called to order and after preliminary remarks Irene Pierce, hostess for the church's congregation was introduced and gave a short historical sketch of the church.

President Shirleyan presented a plaque and a gavel, along with appropriate remarks, to past president Edwin A. Norman for his service as president for the past four years. There was applause showing appreciation after the presentation.

Virginia Haire presented copies of a collection of folk lore quotes compiled at a series of seminars held in July 1997 sponsored by WCGS entitled "Some of the Blue Hen's Chickens" TYRRELL AND WASHINGTON COUNTY FOLK CULURE, and published by the Humanities Extension Publications Program at North Carolina State University in September 1999. Seminar attendance was promoted by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, Tyrrell and Washington Counties.

Discussion was had concerning the restricted use of the library for the monthly meetings of WCGS and it was determined that the Officers and Board of Directors of the society would attend the Feb 14th meeting of the Library Board of Trustees for further clarification.

The ever recurring matter concerning the existing and unpublished survey of the cemeteries in Washington County was initiated by Vernon Everett and it was learned that the survey at present resided in digital memory and could be reproduced at will. Vernon has, at his own initiative, surveyed most of Skinnersville Township and hopes to present it in finished format very soon.

Finally the president explored the subject of publishing the newsletters and journals and offered some suggestions that will be developed at an early date. The prospect of a new format for both endeavors look promising.

President's Desk: President Shirleyan, when approached for copy for this section of the newsletter, decided that she would prefer to write a letter to be included as an attachment thereto.

Family Bible Records: Activity in this program has languished since last fall. Hopefully a way can be devised to bring

interest in this vital program back up to it's proper perspective.

Membership: Thus far in this new year WCGS has received 64 membership renewals, including those received during the last months of 1999. Unless a change is made in the procedure followed heretofore newsletters and other general mailings will follow the 1999 roster with added new members until April at which time a new roster will be prepared of renewals and new memberships for the general mailing list. By that time most will have had time to renew.

Welcome is extended to four new members listed in the order received and every courtesy is offered respecting their efforts to research their family history:

First: Harrison W. Phelps, 5806 NC #32 South, Plymouth, NC 27962. (Harrison had been a member for many years and is being appended to form a family membership again) His family research interests are well known.

Second: Lois Krawcayk, 883 Pea Ridge Road, Roper, NC 27970. Her family research interests are Chesson and Patrick.

Third: James G. Ambrose, 3013 Ferguson Drive, Portsmouth, VA 23703. James is researching the Alexander, Ambrose, Swain and Holiday families.

Fourth: Audrey G. Hilton, 40272 Clear View Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270. Audrey's family interests are the "Grays".

Queries: Barbara Harris Sullivan, 7518 Gold Dale Road, Locust Grove, VA 22508-2907, inquires: I am trying to find a commercial source to purchase the book, "The Hardisons, A Southern Odyssey". Referred to WCGS by the Beaufort County Historical Society.

\\\ANSWERS TO QUERIES\\\

Members Vernon L. Everett, Jr. and Barbara Revels have informed that the author, Elizabeth Shreve Ryan, has written two books about the Hardison Family, the one mentioned in the query and another, "Hardisons and Allied Families". Neither knew the publisher but the author's address is 706 Kensington Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

Edna W. Lane Query, Dec Nwsltr. by Vernon L. Everett, Jr. 11425 Dewes Plantation Rd., Ivor, VA 23866-2525: John Wilson Phelps, son of Wilson A. Phelps and Mield Arnold was born 29 June 1861, John married 1st Mary W. Lucas 2 July 1890. 2nd Emma Leary who was born 9 May 1881,

date of marriage unknown. John and Emma had 3 sons: Grady, Ray and Clarence. They may have moved to Suffolk, VA. If so death certificates are available only from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Richmond, VA.

Vernon states he is enclosing the genealogy of the Leary, Phelps and Davenport families collected by him thus far.

W.E. Chesson Query, Dec Nwsltr by Vernon L. Everett, Jr. 11425 Dewes Plantation Rd., Ivor, VA 23866-2525: Whereby a very interesting question was raised. George Peacock was born prior to 1755 (1800 census) His first appearance in the records is in 1786 when he married Eliza Beth Everett. Isaac Peacock appears in the 1782 tax list with 100 acres but there are no Peacocks in the 1784-1787 Tyrrell County census. George Peacock's last appearance in the records is in the 1810 census. He was surely dead by 12 Feb 1818 when Eliza Beth Peacock deeded to Samuel Corprew her interest in the Everett land. Samuel Corprew (Washington County Deed Book D, Pg. 292) already owned other pieces of the 1715 460 acre Everett patent.

An Isaac Peacock left a will in Beaufort County, Town of Washington, 3 Nov 1817. Wife Nancy. No children. Sister Polly Forman, Niece Rosetta Harral, Niece Betsy Blin, cousin John Wiley. Nancy left her will 1 Oct, 1831, still living in Town of Washington and mentioning the same relatives.

This indicates that George and Isaac were near the same age. John, who served in the Revolution, would be in the age group with George and Isaac.

(Ed. there is more in Vernon's research that, though very interesting, must wait for a later issue of the nwsltr)

Lawrence Memorial Library: As stated in the November Newsletter WCGS devoted a considerable part of the November monthly meeting to discussion of the damage our neighboring Bertie County Library had suffered during the disastrous hurricane "Floyd" and the report from Carolyn Phelps, Vice President, that destruction from flooding was nearly complete. WCGS volunteered to make a contribution toward restoration and would accept contributions from the membership. The results todate follow:

WCGS appropriation -----	\$ 300.00
Cash donation at Nov Meeting --	28.00
Amanda Frymier -----	10.00
William R. McCartin -----	100.00
Total	\$ 438.00

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## Recognition:

WCGS congratulates Weyerhaeuser Company for their efforts to preserve old cemeteries on their land holdings. The society has been aware of this beneficial program and research has been done to determine the identity of those interred there. These are some examples:

Joshua B. Lucas was the son of James Harvey Lucas and Mary E. Phelps. Mary E. Lucas, his wife, was the daughter of Samuel J. Davenport and Mary Ann Hassell.

The parents of Frederick Phelps are unknown. He may have been the son of Frederick Phelps who had rather large family in the 1820 census. Frederick's wives were: 1. Mourning Furlough (Parents unknown) and 2. Etta Jane Leary, born Dec 29, 1874 and died March 6, 1945. She was the daughter of Henderson M. Leary and Melissa Ann Davenport. Etta Jane married 2<sup>nd</sup>. James William Marriner. Etta is buried in Hillside Memorial Gardens in Plymouth. James William Marriner is buried in the Piney Grove Cemetery in Pea Ridge with his first wife, Mary Jane Hilton.

Annie L. Phelps was the daughter of Frederick and Etta Jane Leary who had two other daughters.

This illustration points up the fact that many times the slightest clue can lead to establishing a genealogical line that would have been unresolved, sometimes forever.

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MURPHY'S GENEALOGY LAW

Murphy's law states that if anything can go wrong, it will:

" You search 10 years for your grandmother's maiden name, only to stumble across it on a letter in a box in the attic. When after that much work you solve the mystery and mention it, your aunt says, "I could have told you that.

" The will you need is in a safe on board the Titanic.

" Ink fades and paper deteriorates at a rate inversely proportional to the value of the data recorded.

" You finally find your great grandparents wedding record and discover that the bride's father was named John Smith.

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*Ed's note: Ever wonder why you can't make head or tails out of the census?*

### Ocupayshup, Cencus Taker

"I am a cencus taker for the city of Motown. Our city has groan very fast in resent years & now1 in 2000 it has become a hard and time consuming to count all the peephill. There are not many that con do this werk, as it is nesessarie to have a ejucashun, wich a lot of pursons steal don not have. Another atributeart needed for this job is god speling, for many of the peephill to be counted can hardle speek inglish, lert alon spe! there names!"

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Attachments:

First: WCGS Treasurers Report, 1999

Second: Letter from President Shirleyan B. Phelps.

Third: Membership Application/Renewal Form

Fourth: Publications - Periodicals Catalog

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WASHINGTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
TREASURER REPORT 1999

INCOME

|                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Memberships                          | 1346.75        |
| Donations                            | 133.00         |
| Publications Sold                    | 427.00         |
| Publications sold at Museum          | 510.00         |
| Publications sold at Hope Plantation | 55.00          |
| Postage - Outgoing Publications      | 38.27          |
| Sales tax on Purchases (Recovered)   | 50.01          |
| Navy W. O. R. Book Sales             | 109.00         |
| Interest on Checking Account         | 16.35          |
| <b>Total Income</b>                  | <b>2685.38</b> |

EXPENSES

|                                                      |                |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Memberships Other Societies                          | 87.00          |
| Service Contract on Reader/                          |                |
| Printer in Washington Co. Library                    | 876.00         |
| Plymouth Storage                                     | 360.00         |
| Post Office Box Rental                               | 58.00          |
| Publish Monthly Newsletters                          | 615.60         |
| Publish Apr., Aug., Dec., Journals                   | 650.84         |
| Administrative Expenses as follows:                  |                |
| Copies, Postage, Office Supplies, Stamps             | 373.98         |
| Donation Bertie Library                              | 300.00         |
| Reprint 1800-10-20 Census                            | 133.60         |
| Print 1830 Census                                    | 240.77         |
| Sales Tax on Publications Sold                       | 25.62          |
| <b>Total Expense</b>                                 | <b>3721.41</b> |
| <b>Deficit for 1999</b>                              | <b>1036.03</b> |
| <b>Checking Account Balance for 1999 (1/17/2000)</b> | <b>2933.91</b> |

Respectfully Submitted



Vernon L. Everett, Jr.  
Treasurer

7 February 2000

It was great to see so many members at our January meeting and I hope all of you return on 20th February and bring someone with you. I plan to display a few George and Martha collectibles. If you, too, are a collector, bring your own Washington show'n tell items. Remember - refreshments will be served at 2:30 and the 20th February meeting will be called to order at 3 p.m. See you there!

Working at home as I do, the computer is a great tool. Information found on CD-ROMs and the Internet help me find people and information I'd not have time to locate otherwise. I look forward, also, to finding AntiqueWeek in our mailbox every Monday. Their genealogy section points me to sites I'd not have time to search out on my own. Various writers shed light on topics like census research. Through AntiqueWeek, I found one other person researching the Beacham line. Thanks to WCGS member Rodney Deshields, I've located another Beacham researcher. Thought I'd never run across anyone working on that line.

Members of Concord Primitive Baptist Church Preservation Society, Inc. met on 4 February in Creswell and set the date for "Homecoming 2000." Please put Saturday, 27 May 2000 on your calendar and plan to join us this year. In late 1999, we put in place the historical marker provided by the Washington County Bicentennial Committee. Timothy Mattimore spoke to us a couple of years back and most of us remember his admonition that "this is holy ground...." He challenged us not to turn the old meeting house into a museum but to keep it as our ancestors meant it to be, a place where folks worshiped God. All the known minutes of the meetings at the church have been transcribed and are available from members of the society.

After the meeting, Rett and Bobby Phelps took us on a personal tour of the Davenport Homestead to see all their new babies. We'd not been down there since last June and it was hard to believe all that has been accomplished in less than a year. If you've never been - go. If you've not been lately - go!

As for WCGS, we've invited speakers for future meetings to discuss, among other things, the proper way to cite your sources and to help in locating property from deed descriptions. More on those later.

Harry L. Thompson tells me this year's Living History Week-end will take a different bent which should be of even greater interest to WCGS members.

If you are familiar with the Battle entry, please share with me. We're going to put up the Hoke historical marker near the end of Hollis Road on Long Ridge Road. Watch the newspaper for announcement of date and time - and join us - specially if your ancestors once inhabited that neck of the woods.

I'm told one Griffin relative, Joseph B. Griffin, who inherited 150 acres from Jesse Griffin (d. 1831 Pitt Co., NC), sold out in 1835 and moved to Washington Co., NC.

See you on the 20th!

Shirleyan Beacham Phelps

File : Ap Form

**WASHINGTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 567  
PLYMOUTH, NC 27962-0567**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL FORM**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

RENEWAL ☐ NEW MEMBER ☐ FAMILY ☐ QUERY ☐

[Individual \$15 / Family \$18]

Paid membership entitles member/family to receive one copy of monthly newsletter and one copy of each issue of journal published by the society; publication of free queries as space permits.

Society meets monthly on the third Sunday at Washington County Library, unless membership is notified otherwise. All members as of the last day of each year will receive the January newsletter.

Memberships cease as of December 31 of each year; late applications or renewals will receive a full year of missed newsletters and journals shortly after payment is received. To keep membership active please send payment to the Treasurer, WCGS at above address anytime prior to December 31<sup>st</sup> each year.

Materials, Articles, data and stories for inclusion in either the newsletter or journal are welcomed by the society and will be used as nearly as practical by the editorial staff.

Space following allows a statement and/or list of member's family research lines or topics. Queries and answers to queries are the driving force by which genealogical research thrives and use of the various publications is urged for that purpose. The society is very interested in the list of surnames being researched by each member;

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(This form will be sent to all members periodically with the newsletter whether or not current dues have been paid.)

File : wcfgs\_pub

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

### WASHINGTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

- ☐ TAXABLE PROPERTY - WASHINGTON COUNTY - 1815. Transcribed by Sybble Smithwick. (Pub WCGS 1991).....\$ 4.50
- ☐ WASHINGTON COUNTY ESTATE PAPERS 1862-1933. Transcribed by Sybble Smithwick. (Pub WCGS 1991).....\$ 2.50
- ☐ WASHINGTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA - WPA CEMETERY SURVEY 1937. Transcribed by Sybble Smithwick, retyped and indexed (Pub WCGS.....\$ 5.00
- ☐ WASHINGTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA CENSUS - 1800, 1810, 1820 (Pub WCGS 1997) ( Transcribed by Gordon L. Basnight) soft cover, indexed.....\$ 15.00
- ☐ WASHINGTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA CENSUS - 1830 (Pub WCGS 1998), (Transcribed by Gordon L. Basnight) soft cover, indexed..... \$ 15.00
- ☐ WASHINGTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA CENSUS - 1850 (Pub WCGS 1997, Soft cover, surname indexed .....\$15.00
- ☐ WASHINGTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA CENSUS - 1860 (Pub WCGS 1992), soft cover, surname indexed.....\$ 15.00
- ☐ WASHINGTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA MARRIAGES. Vol. 1, (Pub WCGS 1993) soft cover, full name index.

### PERIODICALS

- ☐ WCGS NEWSLETTERS - 1994: full set, including Winter, Spring & Summer Journals, photocopied and bound.....\$ 15.00
- ☐ WCGS NEWSLETTERS - 1995: full set, including Spring, Summer & Fall Journals, photocopied and bound.....\$ 15.00
- ☐ WCGS NEWSLETTERS - 1996: full set, including Spring, Summer & Fall Journals, photocopied and bound.....\$ 15.00
- ☐ WCGS NEWSLETTERS - 1997: full set, including Spring, Summer & Fall Journals, photocopied and bound.....\$ 15.00
- ☐ WCGS NEWSLETTERS - 1998: full set, including Spring, Summer & Fall Journals, photocopied and bound.....\$ 15.00
- ☐ WCGS NEWSLETTERS - 1999: full set, including Spring, Summer & Fall Journals, photocopied and bound.
- ☐ WCGS CIVIL WAR JOURNALS; full set; 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999.....\$ 30.00

To order send check payable to WCGS, include \$2.00 postage/handling for the first the first publication and .50 for each additional publication. Single copies of journals are available for \$5.00 ea. Plus p/h. Mail to;

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